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Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
Far East.
Price (including Postage) to any
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per annum.

No. 16,752.

號十二月七年七十百九千九百

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1917.

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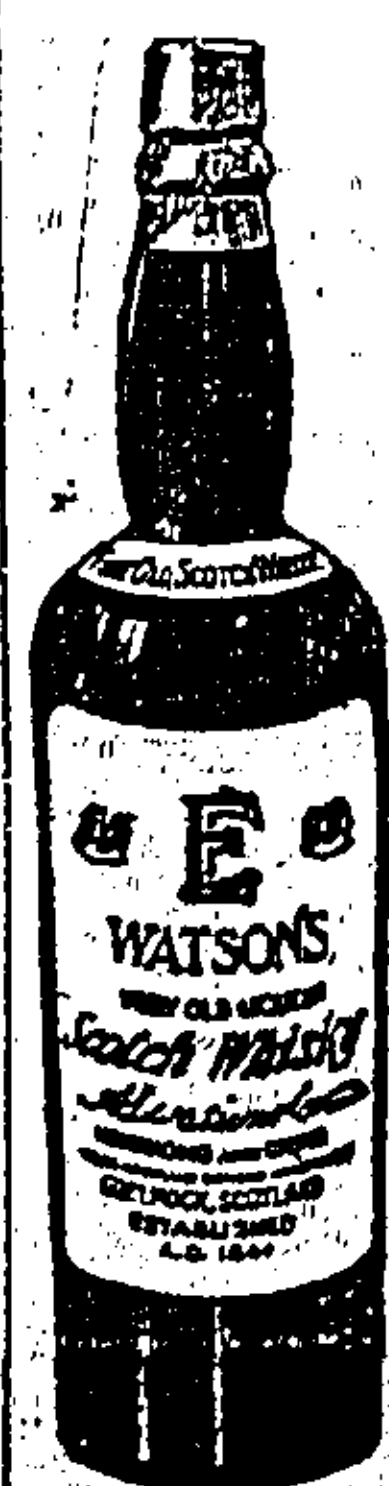
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WONG FUNG WA, Manager.
Hongkong April.

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Manager.

THE WAR.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

PEACE "BY HOOK OR BY CROOK."

DEMAND COMES FROM GERMAN
SOLDIERS.
London, Jan. 18.
A Neutral correspondent of the
Times in a dispatch from Cologne,
dated the 12th inst., says the demand
for peace comes from the soldiers.
General Hindenburg returned from
the West profoundly impressed. The
politicians must make peace by hook
or by crook. The area of the fight-
ing in the West is known as "The
Grave." Every sort of influence is
used to prevent the return of parti-
cular regiments and officers thither
despite the attractions of superior
food and lots of amusements in the
towns. Numerous Generals in the
West have been superceded, and the
number of punishments of the men
is appalling. The Germans think
that only submarines can snatch the
victory and it is reported that a
thousand of them are being built.

THE FIGHTING IN THE BALKAN REGION.

London, Jan. 18.
A Berlin official announcement
says:
Enemy attacks on the heights in the
region of Marasti, North of the Susha
Valley, were repulsed with severe losses.
A British Company which attacked
Serres was easily repulsed.

MR BALFOUR ON TURKEY.

London, Jan. 18.
Mr. Balfour, referring in his recent
dispatch to Turkey says:
In the hands of Germany, Turkey
has ceased, even in appearance, to be a
bulwark of peace and is openly used as
an instrument of conquest. Under
German officers Turkish soldiers are
now fighting in lands from which they
were long ago expelled and the Turkish
Government, controlled, subsidised and
supported by Germany, has been guilty
of massacres in Armenia and Syria
more terrible than any recorded in the
history of even those unhappy countries.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT. AN UNSUCCESSFUL ENEMY OFFENSIVE.

London, Jan. 19.
A Russian official report states:-
The enemy took the offensive in the
region of Zborov, and part of a detach-
ment entered our trenches, but were
promptly driven out.
The enemy bombarded Okna and
Bordashtsi in the valleys of Troits
and Oltuz.

THE RAIDER. A CLUE TO HER IDENTITY.

London, Jan. 18.
In regard to the new German
raider it is now recalled that a month
ago the Chilean German-owned bar-
que Tinto escaped from the little port
of Calbuco, in Chile, after loading a
considerable supply of provisions and
live stock. It was then suspected
that she intended privateering.
Rio de Janeiro, Jan. 18.
The raider also captured the Trou-
den Range and possibly the Snowden
Range. The raider is stated to be
a vessel of the Moene type. It is
now known that the St. Theodore has
been converted into a commerce-
raider.

THE WAR LOAN MR. BONAR LAW'S APPEAL AT GLASGOW.

London, Jan. 18.
Mr. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the
Exchequer, in a speech at Glasgow
appealing on behalf of the War Loan
referred to his Guildhall speech in
which he hinted at the possibility
of other methods of obtaining money.
This remark had received much at-
tention but it was only a common
place. He preferred voluntary
methods and was confident that they
would succeed; but, if necessary,
account would be taken of volun-
tary contributions in considering the
amount of the levy on individuals
and institutions. It was not the
millions but the popular hundreds
that would ensure the success of the
loan. There was reason to believe
that behind the German military
machine there was an internal
foundation rotten to the core.

THE ENEMY'S EXPULSION FROM SINAL. CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERAL MURRAY.

Cairo, Jan. 18.
The King, the War Cabinet, the
Sultan of Egypt, Sir Reginald
Wingate, the Egyptian Premier and
General Milne have telegraphed to
General Murray congratulating him
upon the expulsion of the enemy from
Sinal.
The War Cabinet adds: "The
operations promise further successes."
The Cavalry continues to round up
stragglers.

RAILWAY FARES AT HOME.

London, Jan. 18.
The increase in railway fares has
been abolished for officers, men and
nurses of the British, French and
Belgian forces.

(Continued on Page 5.)

LAW LORD ON EARLY LORE.

"I have very seldom seen a newly-
born baby that was not pronounced by
the relatives to be the image of its
father," said Lord Mersey in an obiter
dictum in the Slingby appeal in the
House of Lords recently.
When Mr. Slingby, K.C., came to the
question of Mr. Slingby's claim to an ad-
vancement for a baby boy, Lord Mersey re-
marked: "It requires a great deal of
abnormality for a woman to have
a baby to be so much like her father
as to be adopted."

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
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IN WHICH ARE UNITED THE RESOURCES OF
THE OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LTD.,
and
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS
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TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1916,
£23,970,367.
I—Authorized Capital £20,000,000
Subscribed Capital £4,000,000
Paid-up Capital £2,437,500
II—Vital Funds £3,837,047
III—Life & Annuity Funds £17,567,590
Sinking Fund Account £123,320

Revenue Fire Branch £2,381,456
Life and Annuity Branches £2,141,598
Revenue Marine Department £37,829
Other Receipts £78,940
£23,970,367

The Accumulated Funds of the various
Branches are separately invested, and, by
Act of Parliament, are set aside to meet
the claims under the respective Depart-
ments of the Company's Business.
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.
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THE WORLD GIVEN UP. — It would hardly be possible to sound lower depths of pessimism than have been reached by an inmate of Poplar casual ward, charged with refusing to do his allotted task of breaking stones. Asked for an explanation the man replied in a tone of profound resignation that he did not care for work, and was giving the world for a lost cause.



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To-day's Advertisements

WANTED.

SECRETARY (Lady or Gentleman) wanted to generally assist the Deputy Superintendent of the Hongkong Police Reserve. (Hours, roughly 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., 2.30 to 5.30 p.m.) Apply to—

Mr. E. C. JENKIN,
Princo's Buildings,
Ice House Street.
Hongkong, Jan. 20, 1917. 1432

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (for account of the concerned), on

TUESDAY,

the 30th January, 1917, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 4, Des Vieux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A LARGE QUANTITY OF
VALUABLE TEAKWOOD AND
SUNDRY BLACKWOOD FURNITURE,
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As follows:—
Upolstered Suites, Arm-chairs and Sofas, Card Tables, Bedroom Furniture, Double Brass-mounted Bedstead, Teakwood Twin Bedsteads, Box Mattresses, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., etc., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking and Heating Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Set, etc., Bath Room Utensils, Large Roll-top Desk and Writing Tables, etc., Sandy Electro Plated Ware.

Piano by Challen and Sons, London, in good condition, Electric Reading Lamp, Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, a quantity of Blackwood Furniture, Pictures, Carpets and Rugs, Clocks, Brass Fenders, Fire Brasses, etc.

1 Sewing Machine, Gent's Bicycle (new), Tennis Rackets and Nettings, etc., etc., Brass Finger Bawls, Child's Cots, Perambulator.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HUGHES,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 20, 1917. 1433

THE DIARY.

General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, Jan. 23 —
Chinese New Year.
General Holiday.
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24 —
General Holiday.
THURSDAY, Jan. 25 —
Burns' Night.
FRIDAY, Jan. 26 —
5.30 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders and Subscribers to St. John's Cathedral.
SATURDAY, Jan. 27 —
Entries close for Hongkong Race Meeting.
MONDAY, Jan. 29 —
H.K. Stock Exchange Settlement Day.
11.30 a.m.—West Point Building Co's Meeting.
11.45 a.m.—H.K. Central Estate Ltd's Meeting.
Noon.—H.K. Land Investment and Agency Co's Meeting.
12.15 p.m.—H.K. Land Reclamation Co's Meeting.
3 p.m.—Sale of Crown Land at P.W.D.

VISITING CARDS

PRINTED AT

"China Mail" Office

STRAIGHT AT IT.

There is no use of our "boating" around the bush. We might as well cut it off at the root. We want you to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the next time you have a cough or cold. There is no reason so far as we can see why you should not do so. This preparation, by its remarkable cures, has gained a world-wide reputation, and people everywhere speak of it in the highest terms of praise. It is for sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JAN. 20, 1917.

THE COLONY'S WAR GIFT.

THE Government's offer to contribute to the Imperial War Chest a sum of two million dollars in addition to the three millions raised by the recent 6 per cent. Colonial Loan, will, we are sure, be readily approved by the whole community, especially as this extra two millions represents surplus of funds on the basis of existing taxation. At the present crisis in the Empire's history, when every sacrifice is demanded, no Colony ought to retain surplus funds. The proper place for them is obviously the Imperial War Chest. True, the intimation of this gift, comes in the nature of a surprise to the community because it is a matter which has not yet been the subject of a resolution at any open meeting of the Legislative Council; but as His Excellency in his telegram to the Secretary of State mentions that the Unofficial Members of both the Executive and Legislative Councils unanimously desire to contribute the additional two millions from the Colony's revenues for the purposes of the war, the passing of the necessary resolution is merely formal business which, no doubt, will be transacted in very few minutes at the next meeting of the Legislative Council. This sum, together with the three millions raised by the Loan, makes a total of \$5,000,000. At the present rate of exchange it represents a contribution of well over half a million pounds sterling, in addition to the Colony's fixed military contribution, which now averages well over £200,000 sterling per annum. His Majesty's Government, the Secretary of State says, highly appreciates the attitude of the Unofficial Members and warmly thanks the Government and the Colony for this further gift towards the prosecution of the war. We are quite sure that the community on its part will unhesitatingly endorse the attitude of their representatives in this matter, and that it will be a source of much satisfaction to all to know that the Colony finds itself in this world-shattering crisis in a position to make such a handsome contribution towards the prosecution of the war and the final triumph of the great cause for which the Empire is fighting on a scale unprecedented in its glorious history. It is scarcely necessary to add the reminder that individually it is not for us to be satisfied with this. Just as the Government of the Colony has placed its surplus funds at the disposal of the Imperial Government, so is it the duty of every firm and individual in the Colony to add to the Allies' War Chest by subscribing to the Loans. A great deal has been done already in that connection by the community, but much more might and ought to be done. The great War Loan now on the market is at once the call and the opportunity for contributing to what we all hope and trust will prove to be the supreme effort which will enable the War to be brought to an early and triumphant conclusion.

Striking evidence of how Germany is feeling the money pinch is afforded by the fact that she is issuing ten pence (one penny) bank notes to pay her troops. The notes are printed on paper three inches wide and five inches long and bear the Reichbank's (the State Bank) stamp.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Lady May will distribute the prizes to the pupil of St. Paul's Institution, Causeway Bay, at 3 p.m. on 31st inst.

In view of the epidemic of small pox prevailing in the Colony, The Head of the Sanitary Department by advertisement, advises the public to refrain from visiting the Chinese New Year Fair.

The Harbour Master notifies in the *Gazette* that no vessel other than Naval craft is allowed, when passing, to approach within 100 yards of the Naval Dockyard walls without a written permit from the Naval Authorities.

The "Hongkong Civil Service List" for 1917, compiled in the Colonial Secretary's Office, has made its appearance. The information is, of course, brought up to date and a casual glance discloses one or two little improvements such as the printing of the "Historical Abstract" on the ordinary pages instead of as formerly, on folded sheets which could scarcely be considered convenient for ready reference.

The usual official notices are published by the Captain Superintendent of Police governing the firing of crackers in the Colony in connection with the Chinese New Year. In the greater part of the City of Victoria and the main residential area of the Kowloon Peninsula, the times are: On Monday, the 22nd January, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and on Tuesday, the 23rd January, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. On Monday, the 29th January, from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m.

A Proclamation by the King is published in to-day's *Gazette* prohibiting the import of jewellery and all manufactures of gold and silver other than watches and watch cases into the United Kingdom, except under licence. Another proclamation by the King makes certain additions to and amendments in the list of articles to be treated as contraband of war. These include:—Diamonds suitable for industrial purposes; Silk in all forms and the manufactures thereof; silk cocoons; artificial silk and the manufactures thereof; quilla bark; Zirconium, cerium, thorium, and all alloys and compounds thereof; Zirconia and monazite sand.

WEDDING AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

This afternoon the wedding took place at St. John's Cathedral of Miss Arabelle V. Henderson to Lieutenant Francis Charles Millington, R.G.A. The bride wore a dress of white net and crepe goterette trimmed with point lace, and carried a bouquet consisting of a sheaf of white chrysanthemums and asparagus fern. Her bridesmaid was Miss Clarke, whose dress was of vieux rose silk crepe. She wore a black hat and carried a bouquet of mimosa. Mrs. Tatcher, who also attended the bride, wore a dress of navy blue net and taffeta and a pink hat, and carried a bouquet of pink roses. Mr. W. J. Tatcher gave away the bride. The best man was Lieut. A. E. Hall, R.G.A. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. L. Cooper-Hunt, Army Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. V. H. Copley Moyle, Chaplain of the Cathedral. The Cathedral was prettily decorated for the occasion and the service was choral, including the hymns "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "Love Divine, all loves exceeding," concluding with Mendelssohn's "Wedding March."

There was a large attendance at the wedding including many of the brother officers of the bridegroom, and numerous pupils of the Belilos School for Girls at which the bride is an assistant mistress. The reception was given by Mrs. W. J. Tatcher at No. 1, Peak Road, where the bride and bridegroom received the felicitations of a host of friends.

FIRE AT YAU MATI.

Fire broke out in a small paper shop in Yau mati about 2.15 o'clock this morning.

The flames spread with lightning rapidity to five three-story houses adjoining, occupied mostly by the Yee Fong Chan restaurant. These were quickly gutted. Three houses across the road were also ignited.

The fire brigade, who responded quickly to the call, had the conflagration under control. There was no loss of life.

HONGKONG APPEAL COURT.

A CANTON WIDOW'S APPEAL.

The Appeal Court of three Judges sat this morning to hear an appeal against a judgment by the Chief Justice in Original Jurisdiction. The Judges sitting were Sir Haviland de Saumarez (Chief Judge of H. B. M. Court at Shanghai), Sir William Rees Davies, K.C. (Chief Justice of Hongkong), Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz (Puisne Judge).

Counsel engaged are:—For the plaintiff-appellant, Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. and Mr. Alabaster (instructed by Mr. R. C. Faithfull, solicitor); for the defendant-respondent, Mr. Eldon Potter, (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors).

The plaintiff-respondent is a poor widow and is pleading in *paupe's*; the defendant-respondent are the Bank of Canton, Limited. The widow alleges that \$10,000 was deposited in the Bank of Canton by her husband, who was an editor of a newspaper in Canton, and who, as a result of his publishing matter considered to be seditious, was shot. The widow alleges that after her husband's death some of his "friends," or relatives, knowing that he had deposited \$10,000 in the Bank, conspired to secure the money. They came to Hongkong, manufactured a promissory note for \$10,000 and placed a confederate in a certain house, with instructions how to act should "anything happen." Subsequently a bailiff arrived at the house, asked certain questions of the man who had been put in possession, and the latter gave his answers in accordance with the instructions given. Shortly after the visit of the bailiff a writ was issued, the bailiff again visited the house, failed to obtain satisfaction for the promissory note, and eventually judgment in default was given in favour of the holders of the promissory note, for \$10,000. The latter then sought to obtain a garnishee order against the Bank of Canton for the \$10,000. There was the usual hearing, and the garnishee order was made for the payment of the \$10,000 to the holders of the promissory note. Then the widow came on the scene. She visited the Bank of Canton for the purpose of drawing out a certain sum, and was then informed of the happenings related above. She sued the Bank of Canton, in Original Jurisdiction, for the return of the \$10,000, but the Chief Justice gave a verdict in favour of the Bank, because the money was paid out by them by order of the Court.

To-day the appeal was opened by Mr. Sharp who put before the Court the facts and the legal contentions for the plaintiff-appellant.

THE MAGISTRACY.

ALLEGED FALSE STATEMENT BY BANKRUPT.

A charge of making a material misstatement after receiving an order in bankruptcy was preferred against Mui Chuk, by Chow Chuk Lung.

It is alleged that defendant falsely stated that he was indebted to one San Hang Tong in the sum of \$3,000.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley appeared for the complainant and Mr. Agassiz for the defendant.

His Worship fixed the bail at \$1,000 cash, one bond of \$4,000 and a personal bond.

THIEF HEAVILY SENTENCED.

A Chinese coolie charged with stealing a gold neck-chain from a Chinese girl was sentenced by Mr. Wood this morning to one year's imprisonment, twenty-four strokes of the birch and four hours' stocks.

MALICIOUS DAMAGE.

A Chinese shopkeeper was charged before Mr. Wood with intentionally damaging the dry goods displayed for sale by the complainant.

Inspector O'Sullivan said it was alleged that the defendant threw a quantity of Jeyes' fluid and kerosene on the complainant's haberdashery with the result that the goods were ruined.

Bail was fixed at \$100.

CROUP.

EVERY young child is susceptible to croup. Don't wait until this dreadful disease attacks your little one before you prepare for it. It comes in the night when the child is usually closed and this alone should be a warning. Get and keep Chamberlain's Cough Remedy on hand. It never fails, acts quickly, and is absolutely harmless. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

ST. STEPHEN'S GIRLS' COLLEGE.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

A HOPE TO SEE UNIVERSITY OPENED TO WOMEN.

Mrs. Sandemann, wife of the Commodore, distributed the prizes yesterday at St. Stephen's Girls' College.

The Headmistress in the course of her report on the work of the College said:—

"This year, for the first time, some of the girls of Va and L. VI. entered for the Hongkong Local Examinations. We have ceased altogether to prepare pupils for the Oxford Preliminary examination, and have found this step most satisfactory in that it gives Form Vb. more time to work thoroughly and slowly at perfecting their English before they attempt the harder work and set books of the Local Examinations. Four candidates sat for these outside examinations in the summer of 1916:—two Juniors, two Seniors. All four students, Li Shuk Ching, Yung Po Ming, Loh Mo In, and Choy Kam Yuet, passed most satisfactorily. They all gained good marks in: Scripture, set books, Dictation, Grammar, Essay, Geography, History and Needlework. Three distinctions were gained in Scripture, and three in Needlework. Li Shuk Ching, the head of the school last year, passed her senior examination with Honours, and gained 'very good' in all branches of her English. We naturally rejoiced that distinction should be gained by three students in Scripture, as it is the subject which has the first place in our school curriculum and time-table and is the foundation on which we build up all the other work. Needlework, too, we feel to be a subject which cannot be lightly overlooked in a girl's education. It has had special thought and care put into it for the past year and under Miss Updell's direction has been thoroughly systematised. We invite inspection of this and all other branches of handwork which are displayed in the Guest Room for your criticism. Two other successes in this direction. I should like to mention those gained by Sun Hong Kheung and Ng Shuk Hing, who were awarded two out of the three prizes at the Ministering Children's League Bazaar in the competition for beautiful needlework. One other branch of our work here I should like to call attention to and that is the Chinese studies which are under the careful direction of Mr. Lo Kwan Sheung and his staff. I hope parents will do all in their power to encourage attendance at these afternoon classes, for which a thorough study of the Chinese Classics no Chinese girl should consider her education at all complete. Of our old girls, I should like to mention the name of Liang Yat Kwan, who, while in this school passed her Senior Oxford examination in 1914. She left us to join her parents in Peking and passed there into Miss Bowden Smith's school. After about a year's hard work at extra subjects such as French, Latin, Mathematics, she succeeded in passing out fifth on the list of students who entered for the Tsun Wa Scholarship examination, which has now taken her as a student to America. We were naturally proud of her success and felt no one in the school so much deserved the honour she won, for the special reason that she has been an outstanding example in this school of a courageous spirit. Having once failed in her Senior Examination she was plucky enough to take it again the following year. We all, therefore, rejoice in her present good fortune, and, knowing that her life is dedicated to God and her country, we feel all will be well for her in her new surroundings; but we do not advise other students of this College to necessarily follow her abroad. We would rather hope to see the University of Hongkong in the near future opening its doors to women students and offering to those who are free to study the advantages of some higher courses of study. The girls of China would then be able to pursue their education while still under the protecting influences of their own home and country. Was it possibly some such thought as this that prompted Mr. Ho Fook, when, a few weeks ago, he made his generous offer to St. Stephen's Girls' College? I refer to the sum of \$1,000 in War Loan Bonds which he has presented as a Scholarship to the girl who passes best in the school in her Summer examination. This is the first offer of its kind which has ever come our way and has in no little manner inspired us with courage, for it speaks to us, with no uncertain sound, of the staunch support of our Chinese friends. I should therefore like to take this present opportunity of publicly thanking the kind donor of this Scholarship in the name of the staff and students of the College, whose work it will so stimulate."

"But most of all are our thanks due to God who has guided us and blessed us through all the work of this past year, and who, as a sign of His favour towards us has allowed us on this past Christmas Eve the joy of witnessing nine of His children receive Confirmation at the hands of the Bishop of Victoria, and so pass into the visible membership of Christ's Holy Catholic Church. No reward for our work can bring deeper joy than this, for it is through the lives of such students as these that we look for the greatest blessing to come to China, the land of our adoption."

Mr. SANDEMANN, after distributing the prizes, said it had given her great pleasure to be present. She expressed a hope that the Headmistress would see to it that the students were instructed as to what was going on in Europe, and what the Allies were fighting for—a cause to which many wealthy Chinese in the Colony had given their practical assistance.

The Bishop, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Sandemann, said they also welcomed Commodore Sandemann as a representative of the British Navy. The Bishop referred to the need of new and larger college premises, and threw out the challenge that if someone would provide him with \$50,000 during the next fortnight he would find some suitable premises, and very near to the playground.

The proceedings closed with hearty cheers for Mrs. Sandemann and the visitors, and the singing of the National Anthem.

GERMAN INFLUENCES IN CHINA.

BANKS AGAIN.

Under these headings the *Times* Commercial Supplement for December contains the following from a correspondent at Peking:—

The delusion is held in some quarters that German trade in China is in a moribund state. At first glance it would appear that the impossibility of exporting goods from Germany and the complete disappearance of the German mercantile marine from the commercial seas would prevent the German firms in China from carrying on their export or import business.

As a matter of fact, German firms in the Treaty ports are handling quite a large amount of business and have built up useful connections with firms in America. They experience no difficulty in financing this business as the Deutsche Asiatische Bank, the semi-official concern by means of which Germany conducted her politico-financial deals in China, has an ample supply of funds. The German share of the Boxer Indemnity is paid to the Deutsche Asiatische Bank and indications justify the belief that the bulk, if not all, of the money so received is kept in China. In certain of the German concessions there has been most significant activity in building or extending business premises, undertaken, no doubt, in order to impress the Chinese. The Deutsche Asiatische Bank is said on good authority to encourage German traders in China to apply for financial facilities in order to inaugurate or extend enterprises which would tend to confirm the belief, sedulously cultivated by the well-organized publicity campaign, that the Germans are supremely confident of emerging victorious from the world war.

PREPARATIONS FOR POST-WAR CAMPAIGN. That Germany, whatever terms of peace may be dictated to her, fully intends to make a strong effort to improve her commercial position in China after the war is beyond question. Advances from Japan show that among the German prisoners in that country, the most popular method of employing their enforced leisure is the study of the Chinese language. Many of the prisoners were men who were employed by German commercial firms in China before they were called to the colours at Tientsin, and of these a large percentage had a good knowledge of the Chinese language and trade customs. They have been coaching fellow-prisoners who were not so well-equipped, and at the end of the war Germany will have a comparatively large commercial army fully prepared to carry on the campaign in China. Knowledge of this fact should stimulate the efforts now being made both in Great Britain and China to encourage the study of the Chinese language among those of our own people who contemplate personal participation in the exploitation of China's commercial possibilities.

WAR CHARITIES.

"Our Little Bit Society" have to-day forwarded their usual fortnightly parcel of comforts for the troops to Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, London, through the kindness of Messrs. Shaw, Tomes & Co., consisting of the following:—

2,916 rolled Bandages.
616 Swabs.
86 flannel many-tailed Bandages.
7 pairs Surgical Stockings.
38 Flop Mops.
64 Milk Covers.
115 Suits Pyjamas.
24 Japanese Puzzles.
1 dozen "Comic Cuts."

CORRESPONDENCE.

LEST WE FORGET.

(To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL.")

SIR,—The payment by Hongkong of its surplus revenue to the War Fund is an act which must meet with general approval.

Least, however, the Colony should take to itself too much credit, it is well to remember from whom this surplus is obtained.

We are living in peace and luxury here, paying no War taxes, except a small tax on tobacco and a slight increase in the liquor duties, which nobody feels. The surplus and much more is contributed by the Overseas SMOKERS.

Yours etc.,

PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT.

COMMERCIAL.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Market. Maxon and Taylor in their share report dated 10th January state:— Since the date of our last report our market has continued dull with a very small volume of business passing, due entirely to the continued tightness of money and withdrawal of all facilities for finance, a state of affairs which may be reasonably expected to be prolonged until China's New Year.

Shanghai shows evidence of suffering from the same complaint, the market there being almost stagnant, with the exception of a little firmness in Shanghai Cotton shares.

Russell is quoted from London 3/1 per lb.

BANKS.—Hongkong Banks have been done to a small extent at \$700 and \$710, closing nominal at \$710.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions could be placed at slightly over \$200. Shares are offering at \$377. North China at \$1.10 and Yangtze at \$255 remain unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Hongkong Fire at \$275, and China Fire at \$165 are quoted at last week's rates.

STRENGTH.—Donghai have firming up to a buying rate of \$118 for cash. Deferred Indos are offering at \$133 but buyers are shy of quoting a rate. Preferred Indos have come to business at \$41.30. Star Ferries could be obtained at \$30. Steamships have firming up to a buying rate of \$209 after a small business at the rate.

REVENUE.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$128 and Malabons at \$384.

COALS AND MINING.—Langkats have been sold to the North China at \$13. Rauba at \$2.40. Tremols at \$18.80. Sals at \$2.40 and Ural Caspians at 30/- are all unchanged from last week.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GOWNS.—Kowloon Wharves after being in demand at \$50 are now offering at the rate. Hongkong Docks have fallen away to \$126 for cash. Shanghai Docks have firming up to a buying rate of \$1.55 with a small business passing at the rate.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Centrals at \$101 are offering whilst Hongkong Lands are in demand at \$86 to a small extent. Hongkong Hotels are offering at \$115. Humphreys Hotels are wanted at \$6.80. West Point lands are buyers at \$80. Kowloon Lands at \$35 are unaltered from last week.

COTTONS.—Kong Yeh at \$1.14 and Yangtzepepos at \$1.14 are all quoted at last week's rate with no business reported during the week. Shanghai Cottons have come into favour, rising from \$1.12 to \$1.13 last week's rate to \$1.18 offered for cash, with \$1.12 done for February.

ELECTRIC COMPANIES.—Hongkong Electric at \$14 are quiet with nothing doing. China Lights are wanted at \$4, and Hongkong Trams at \$7.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos are offering at \$8 and China Providents have changed hands at \$8.50. Waterboats are wanted at \$15. Dairy Farms are offering at \$25 and Cements have come to business at \$11.60.

EXCHANGE.—The demand rate on London is 2/3 1/2 and the T.T. selling rate on Shanghai is 64.

LECTURE BY MR. DENMAN FULLER.

There was a large attendance, including H. E. the Governor and Lady May, Sir Charles Elliot and the Hon. Mr. Chud. Severn, at Mr. Denman Fuller's last lecture on "Musical Appreciation," the collection for the Fund for Blind Sailors and Soldiers amounting to over \$60.

The next lecture (to which all are invited, whether members of the Institute or not) will be on Monday next at the Haden May Institute at 5.30 p.m., when Mr. Denman Fuller will speak of and play several pieces of the more popular type, special mention will be made of some common faults in their interpretation, and how to avoid these faults. Debussy's "Garden in the Rain" (Modern French) and "Innocence" (Hunting Song) (Modern British) will also be played and spoken of.

As at the previous lectures, collection will be made on behalf of the Fund for Blind Sailors and Soldiers, which is in urgent need of support.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Wharves 4-5 1/2 sales 173
Humphreys 11 1/2 sales
Centrals 11 1/2 sales
Kong Yeh 11 1/2 sales
Kong Yeh 11 1/2 sales
Kong Yeh 11 1/2 sales

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

HOW THEY ARE BEING CARED FOR.

LONDON, Jan. 19.
Presiding at the Soldiers' Graves Committee, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales stated that 150,000 graves had been registered in France and Belgium. Sixty of the 400 burial grounds had been beautifully laid out under the advice of the Director of New Gardens. We were also caring for the French cemeteries in the line taken over, and the experience gained in France and Belgium was being applied elsewhere. He welcomed the first attendance of the Dominions and India committee. The committee considered the marking and care of the graves of soldiers from the Dominions and India in Great Britain.

BRITISH PROGRESS.

LONDON, Jan. 19.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
We progressed at night-time northwards of Beaumont, and bombarded defences east of Bois Grenier and east of Ploegsteert. The enemy artillery was active south of Sully Saillet and east of Bethune.

HEAVY ARTILLERY DUEL ON FRENCH FRONT.

PARIS, Jan. 19.

A communiqué states:—There has been an artillery duel of considerable intensity in the Vosges, in the Lorraine and Spionnon sections. The rest of the front has been quiet.

THE REBELLION AT TRIPOLI.

TURCO-GERMAN FUNDS.

ROME, Jan. 19.

The rebellion at Tripoli was originated by the intrigue of the well-known native agitator, Baruni, who fled from Tripoli and returned supplied with Turco-German funds and declared that he was authorised by the Sultan to organise a rebellion against Italy. He stirred up two tribes and concentrated three columns, estimated at 6,000 strong, against those who were friendly towards the Italians. The Italians attacked the approaching columns and completely routed the enemy after five hours' stiff fighting. The enemy left 400 dead on the field. The Italian casualties were not heavy. The pursuit of the enemy is being followed up.

DEATH OF LORD ELGIN.

LONDON, Jan. 19.

The death is announced of Lord Elgin, K.G., K.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., P.C., LL.D., D.C.L.
The deceased, who was the ninth Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, was Treasurer of the Household and First Commissioner of Works in 1886, and Viceroy of India from 1894 to 1899. From 1903 to 1908 he was Secretary of State for the Colonies. He was in his 88th year, having been born at Monklands, near Monkland, on May 10th, 1849.

BRITISH EXCHEQUER BONDS IN JAPAN.

Commenting on the arrangements that have been concluded for a public issue in Japan of British Government Exchequer bonds to the amount of £10,000,000, the "Financial Times" remarks:—
Our Far Eastern Ally, who has already rendered invaluable service to the cause of Western civilisation during this war, now comes forward with timely financial assistance, which she is well able to afford, but which might have been diverted elsewhere had Japan considered her own interests exclusively and ignored those of her Allies. Before this was Japan borrowed freely in Great Britain to supply capital for her internal development, and also to meet the cost of the war with Russia. By the irony of fate it is now Great Britain who is borrowing in Japan to help towards the payment of her obligations contracted in a neutral country, which also owes its development very largely to copious supplies of British capital in the past. In consequence of Japan's strong economic position, the rate of exchange between that country and the United States stands at a favourable level—a circumstance rendering the present operation desirable from the point of view of the British Government.

ANTHRAX IN SHAVING BRUSHES.

A warning to the public against purchasing two types of shaving brushes, which have been found to be infected with anthrax, has been issued by the Public Health Committee of Liverpool. One of the brushes has a plain, black wooden handle, and the other has a white metal handle with a small mirror at the top. The brushes were purchased from a shop in the Continent, and the chairman of the committee suggested that this might be another of the enemy's "devil's devices." Brushes similarly infected have been found in London.

LIQUOR ORDERS EVADDED.

THE PREVALENCE OF TREATING AT HOME.

There can be little doubt that evasions of the orders made by the Central Control Board relating to the consumption of alcoholic liquor are more numerous and more serious than is generally realised.

The evasions are of two kinds. Drink is sold during prohibited hours and the "no-treating" order is ignored. That drink is illegally sold in certain London hotels and restaurants is well known to both the police and the military authorities. The difficulty with which the latter have chiefly to contend is that of obtaining evidence. Raids have been made, only to find everything in perfect order, the establishments, so it is alleged, having been notified by telephone of the intended official visit.

But the order chiefly evaded is that prohibiting treating. A correspondent of *The Times*, who during the past six months has visited many parts of England and Scotland, states that treating still goes on to an extent which in some towns makes the order no more effective than the discredited Black List. In Newcastle, Sheffield, Manchester, Edinburgh, Southampton, and other places treating is openly practised. At two hotels in Blackpool the correspondent saw payment for two or more drinks accepted without demur by the barmaids. In one case, payment was taken for the drinks of five men out of the only coin tendered. Experience suggests that an army of inspectors would be necessary to stamp out the evasion. Where convictions have been secured, the heaviest fines have often been inflicted on the licensee holder and the bar attendant, but the fault lies more definitely with the customers.

Another matter which requires attention is the wide differences of interpretation put upon a saving clause in the order which permits the consumption of intoxicating liquor in hotels and clubs during prohibited hours by bona fide residents. License holders were informed many months ago that consumption did not include sale. When the order is most strictly read the only way of obtaining drink after 9.30 p.m. is to deposit payment before that hour. The drink is then sent to the resident's bedroom. This system is not popular, and is open to abuse, as non-residents can be smuggled up to a bedroom and allowed to share a bottle of whisky there. In other cases where the spirit as well as the letter of the law is kept no intoxicant is served at all after closing time, but there is no compulsion on the resident to consume the drink with which he has been served in any specified time. A criticism often levelled at this method is that a traveller arriving in a town after 9.30 cannot obtain refreshment.

In many hotels a deposit of money at the bar is regarded as covering the demand that drink shall not be sold out of hours, and up to the amount of the deposit the resident is permitted to call for and consume what he wishes during the night. Another practice is for guests to purchase during selling hours tickets which can later be exchanged for beer or wine or spirits. Finally there are hotel proprietors who do not bother about a rather puzzling regulation, and frankly serve a resident guest with any drink he likes to ask for, accepting payment for the liquor when it is ordered, or booking the cost to the resident's account. There is a growing feeling among travellers that for their own protection some uniformity of system should be evolved out of this confusion.

SHIP-OWNERS' PROFITS.

NEED OF PROVIDING NEW TONNAGE.

Mr. Howard Houlder, presiding last month at the annual meeting of the Institute of Ship-brokers, advised ship-owners to look carefully to the future.

"It seems to me," he said, "that while a reasonable dividend should be paid to those who have their money in ships, something should be done whereby the bulk of the money which is being made out of shipping at the present time should be retained in shipping and utilised on reserves for the time which is coming after the war, after which we may find that we shall be severely handicapped in relation to foreign shipping. Otherwise we shall find that our shipping will be very much depleted."

Mr. Houlder said it was almost impossible for any British shipowner at the present time to obtain freights in the open market that would give the same results as neutral, and even Allied tonnage, such as Japan, was securing. It was perfectly clear that the result was that enormous sums of money were being accumulated by non-British tonnage out of all proportion to any profits that are being made by British ship-owners, and that must, of necessity, place other nationalities in an exceptionally strong position after the war is over compared with the British-mercantile marine.

ILL-TREATMENT OF ROMANIAN BOY SCOUTS.

A Petrograd Telegraph Agency telegram from Odessa, dated January 9, states that well informed persons who have arrived from Rumania described the extraordinary cruelty of the Germans to Rumanian boy scouts, considerable numbers of whom took an active part in the fighting. According to statements of Rumanian and other testimony obtained in places where the Rumanians were able to repulse the Germans, for instance in the sector of Targu-Jiu, the Germans treated them as "frank beasts" and shot them without mercy.

OPIUM SMOKING IN FORMOSA.

The "Japan Chronicle" of the 10th inst. has the following leading article on this subject:—

Within the last few weeks Formosa has had a visit from Mr. E. W. Thwing, the Oriental Secretary of the International Reform Bureau. Mr. Thwing states that he has been greatly impressed with the remarkable progress made in Formosa. The fine new buildings, and especially the large educational work of the island, he tells us in a communication from Moji, are "nothing short of marvellous." This may be. A change was certainly necessary, as according to Japanese statistics there were in 1911 less than 45,000 pupils in the elementary public schools out of a population of three and a half millions. We also learn from Mr. Thwing that he talked with the Governor-General and other officials, who showed him every courtesy, but on the opium question, upon which Mr. Thwing insists as an authority, and which has occupied much of his attention during his three years' residence in China, all that the communication says is that "he also made a study of the Opium Monopoly." It is very difficult to get at the facts on this question, as the figures issued by the authorities tend to differ according as the question is looked at from the point of view of revenue or from the point of view of eradication of a vice. It may be explained that when the Japanese took over control of the island in 1895, it was determined, after full consideration had been given to the matter, that it would be a mistake to extirpate opium smoking at once, as this would cause great suffering to those who had become accustomed to the use of this drug. Consequently it was determined to make the manufacture of opium a monopoly and to issue licences to opium smokers who had already acquired the habit; and by refusing the issue of new licences to those who wished to begin to smoke, it was believed that the evil would gradually disappear. If the regulations had been strictly carried out, the expectation should now have been near realisation, but it is interesting to note that while the number of licensed smokers in 1908 was 95,449, rising in 1909 to 105,752, Baron Goto admits in the article on Formosa which he contributes to the Japan Section of the "Times," that in 1914 the number of licensed opium smokers was still in the neighbourhood of 80,000. And it must be remembered that there is a good deal of clandestine indulgence in the vice, and that a decline in opium smoking has been succeeded by an increase in the use of morphine. In any case, with a population in the number of millions, 130,000 or 160,000 in 1900—the figures vary—80,000 in 1914, it cannot be said that the progress of extirpation has been very successful. The fact seems to be that the Opium Monopoly was soon discovered to be a fruitful source of revenue, and licences were issued without any very strict inquiry. In Mr. Takekoshi's book on Japanese Rule in Formosa, published in 1907, he remarks that "as the officials of the Bureau have now had several years' experience, they have become quite expert, and the economical success of the Bureau is now fully assured." He goes on to say that the Opium Monopoly makes a profit of about a million yen annually. "Although this gain," he remarks, "is not larger than that accruing from some of the other monopolies, it is considerably more than the Land Tax or the Sugar Consumption Tax produces." The opium revenue therefore well deserves to be called one of the island's richest resources. Nevertheless, when Mr. Takekoshi comes to consider the opium question from the point of view of Japan's success in extirpating the vice, he declares that it is being swept away step by step, and concludes by hoping that the happy day may speedily come when the last opium smoker shall have disappeared from Formosa.

As this at the same time will involve the loss of a substantial item of revenue, it is perhaps not to be surprised that the officials do not seem to be enthusiastically hastening the happy day. "Nothing is more eloquent than statistics," declares Baron Goto. As a matter of fact, the variation of the statistics published on this subject is remarkable. Baron Goto, writing for readers of the "Times," says that the number of opium smokers reached its climax soon after the Japanese occupation, when it attained as large a number as 160,000. Mr. Takekoshi gives the number of opium smokers as 165,752 in 1900, three years after the Monopoly had gone into existence, while the Japanese Statistical Summary of Taiwan for 1912 states that in September, 1900, the Government issued licences in favour of 160,064 confirmed smokers. Again, Mr. Takekoshi, professing to be quoting from official sources, says that in 1903 the value of opium sold was 3,922,516 yen, while the Japanese official statement records the value as 3,700,023 yen. This curious discrepancy in figures all supposed to be based on official returns raises a doubt whether any of them can be absolutely relied on. Mr. Takekoshi gives a table showing the weight and value of opium sold by Government agents, which shows that in 1907 the value was 1,891,897 yen and in 1908 3,922,516 yen. The Japanese official return shows that the value of opium sold in 1911 was increased to 5,707,488 yen. No doubt this was in a large part due to the increase in the price of opium, as in 1900 the quantity of opium sold was 25,449,470 taels, and in 1911 only 27,019,275 taels. But it may be assumed that any slight increase in price was at least on behalf of the Government authorities which administered the

amount of opium consumed. We have not the official figures of a later date than 1911, so we cannot say how these compare with the statements made by Baron Goto concerning the decrease of opium smokers to less than 80,000 in 1914.

It is interesting to note, however, that in his articles in the "Times" for the instruction of English readers Baron Goto is entirely silent on the fact that a substantial revenue is derived from the Opium Monopoly. As a matter of fact, he does not mention the Opium Monopoly at all. The principal reason, he says, why the new Government of Formosa adopted the gradual method of extirpating the vice was that "by proclaiming the non-prohibition of opium they at the same time made known their fundamental policy of non-intervention with the old customs and traditions of the natives." All this may be perfectly true, but why does Baron Goto conceal the fact that in endeavouring to extinguish the opium habit by the method of licence the Japanese Government incidentally raised a very handsome revenue—a revenue that, in the words of Mr. Takekoshi, to whose book Baron Goto contributed a foreword, for years exceeded the yield of either the Land Tax or the Sugar Consumption Tax? This consideration is of importance because it may possibly account for the fact that the decrease of opium smoking in the island is so very gradual. Twenty years have now elapsed since the Opium Regulations were put in force. Yet in that space of time the number of persons to whom licences are issued has only decreased, even on Baron Goto's showing, by about half. If the regulations had been enforced with a single eye to the extirpation of the evil, and the "habitual smokers" of 1897 had been continued to receive licences, would they have been diminished in number by only 50 per cent. in the course of twenty years? The alternative conclusion is that opium smoking is a much less deadly vice than it is represented to be. When the number of licences is added the amount of clandestine smoking and of smuggling that is inevitable when prices of the Monopoly product are high, and the fact, as Mr. Takekoshi admits, that morphine has to some extent taken the place of opium, Baron Goto is very bold in suggesting that he is content to rest the success or failure of the Japanese rule of Formosa on the handling of the opium problem.

DANGERS OF KOBE HILLS.

ATTACK ON BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL.

Mr. R. G. B. Forster, the British Consul General at Kobe, wrote to a representative of the *Japan Chronicle* the following account of the attack recently made upon him. Brief mention of which has already been made in the *China Mail*. "One morning," he started about ten o'clock to walk up the bank in the Moon Temple range from which a path descends to the reservoir in the waterfall. The path is known among foreigners as the Goblin Ridge. About one third of the way up I was overtaken by a Japanese, apparently of the wood-cutter class, who seemed to me to be dozing my footsteps so much so that I stopped to adjust my bootlace. The man however stopped also and waited till I proceeded. On arriving at the summit I leant my stick, a bamboo cane about five feet in length, with a steel shoe to it, against a tree and stood for a minute or so looking at the view. The man in question then asked me the time and after looking at my watch I replied in Japanese, 10.55. I was just putting my hand in the pocket of my coat to take out an orange which I had brought with me, when I heard a sort of snarl, looked up and at the same moment received a handful of gravel across my eyes and a blow on the head from my own stick with which the miscreant had armed himself. Happily, owing to the lightness of the stick, it broke without practically doing me any injury, as I had had just time to shield my arm with my left hand. The man then threw at me with all his strength. These also I was able to keep off my head whilst I walked steadily towards him. He then took up a rock, fully a cubic foot in size, and let it miss me by a few inches. I stooped and let the missile go over my head and rushed at him. He then made off as fast as he could. I followed for some time, but he was too fast for me and I thought it wiser to turn round and go down by the path to the reservoir, lest he should ambush me. The man had a very uncommon face for a Japanese; very pale complexion and the whole of the lower part of his face covered with a strong growth of beard. He also walked in a slouching manner with both hands tucked into his belt over his shoulders and let the missile go over my head and rushed at him. He then made off as fast as he could. I followed for some time, but he was too fast for me and I thought it wiser to turn round and go down by the path to the reservoir, lest he should ambush me. The man had a very uncommon face for a Japanese; very pale complexion and the whole of the lower part of his face covered with a strong growth of beard. He also walked in a slouching manner with both hands tucked into his belt over his shoulders and let the missile go over my head and rushed at him. He then made off as fast as he could. I followed for some time, but he was too fast for me and I thought it wiser to turn round and go down by the path to the reservoir, lest he should ambush me. 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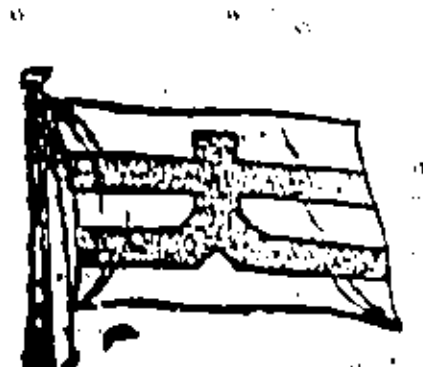
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PROTECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATION	STEAMERS	SAILING DATE
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VICTORIA, B.C. & SEAT TLE via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, NAGOYA AND YOKOHAMA		
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE via MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE and BRISBANE		
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON		
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Toyo KISEN KAISHA, Hongkong, Dec. 8, 1916.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

AMERICAN-ASIATIC S.S. CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship "RIOTO,"

Captain J. A. Smith, having arrived the above Port Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into Holt's Wharf Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, 22nd inst., at 10 a.m.

All claims must be presented within FIFTEEN DAYS of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th inst., will be subject to rent.

Consignees of cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.

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Hongkong, Jan. 17, 1917.

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